GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Servants - All India Services –Sri Kanthi Rana Tata, I.P.S., I.G.P. (u/s) (formerly C.P., NTR Police Commissionerate, Vijayawada) - Disciplinary proceedings under Rule 8 of the A.I.S. (D&A) Rules, 1969 – Articles of charge – Issued.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (SC.D) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.1956 Dated:12.11.2024
Read:-

G.O.Rt.No.1954, General Administration (SC.D) Dept., dated:12 .11.2024.

ORDER:

It is proposed to hold an inquiry against Sri Kanthi Rana Tata, I.P.S., I.G.P. (u/s) (formerly C.P., NTR Police Commissionerate, Vijayawada) in accordance with the procedure laid down in Rule 8 of the All India Services (Discipline and Appeal) Rules, 1969.

2. The substance of the imputations of misconduct or misbehaviour in respect of which the inquiry is proposed to be held is set out in the enclosed statement of articles of charge (Annexure I). A statement of imputations of misconduct and misbehavior in support of the articles of charge is enclosed (Annexure II). A list of documents by which, and a list of witnesses by whom, the articles of charge proposed to be sustained are also enclosed (Annexure, III and IV).

3. Sri Kanthi Rana Tata, I.P.S., I.G.P. (u/s) (formerly C.P., NTR Police Commissionerate, Vijayawada) is directed to submit a written statement of defence and also state whether he desires to be heard in person, within 30 days of receipt of this order.

4. Sri Kanthi Rana Tata, I.P.S., I.G.P. (u/s) (formerly C.P., NTR Police Commissionerate, Vijayawada) is informed that an inquiry will be held, only in respect of those Articles of Charge, which are not admitted and in case if it is considered necessary, the Member of Service should, therefore, specifically admit or deny the Articles of Charge.

5. Sri Kanthi Rana Tata, I.P.S., I.G.P. (u/s) (formerly C.P., NTR Police Commissionerate, Vijayawada) is further informed that if no written statement of defence is filed within the time specified in Para 3 above, or if he does not appear in person before the Inquiring Authority or otherwise fails or refuses to comply with the provisions of Rule 8 of All India Services (Discipline and Appeal) Rules, 1969 or the orders or directions issued in pursuance of the said Rules, action will be taken against him on the basis of the material available on record, on the ground that he has no explanation to offer.

6. Attention of Sri Kanthi Rana Tata, I.P.S., I.G.P. (u/s) (formerly C.P., NTR Police Commissionerate, Vijayawada) is invited to Rule 18 of the All India Services (Conduct) Rules, 1968, according to which no member of service shall bring or attempt to bring any political or outside influence to bear upon any superior authority to further his interests in respect of matters pertaining to his service under the Government. If any representation is received on his behalf from another person in respect of Sri Kanthi Rana Tata, I.P.S., I.G.P. in any matter dealt within these proceedings, it will be presumed that he is aware of such

representation and that it has been made at his instance and action will be taken against him for violation of rule 18 of the All India Services (Conduct) Rules, 1968.

7. This order is sent to Sri Kanthi Rana Tata, I.P.S., I.G.P. (u/s) (formerly C.P., NTR Police Commissionerate, Vijayawada) in duplicate. He is directed to acknowledge the receipt with date on the duplicate copy and return the same to the Government, immediately.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

NEERABH KUMAR PRASAD
CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
Sri Kanthi Rana Tata, I.P.S., I.G.P. (u/s) (formerly C.P.,
NTR Police Commissionerate, Vijayawada).
(through the Director General of Police, Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri
with a request to serve copy of the Government Order on the Member of Service, obtain his acknowledgement on the duplicate copy and furnish the same to the Government, immediately).
The Director General of Police, A.P., Mangalagiri.
Copy to
The Secretary to Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs,
North Block, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110 001.
The Home (SC-A) Department.
The General Administration (SC.C) Department.
The General Administration (SC.E) Department.
SF/SC.

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE-I

Statement of Articles of Charge framed against Sri Kanthi Rana Tata, I.P.S., I.G.P. (U/s) (formerly C.P., N.T.R. Police Commissionerate, Vijayawada)

Article of Charge – I:

That the Member of Service/Charged Officer, while working as Commissioner of Police, NTR Police Commissionerate, Vijayawada in violation of his duty to act independently and in his best judgment acted upon unauthorized oral instructions received from Sri P. Sitharama Anjaneyulu, the then Director General of Police (Intelligence) on 31.01.2024, an officer lacking the required supervisory authority, thereby violated Rule 3 in general, and specifically, Rule 3 (2B)(iii), 3(3)(i), under the All India Services (Conduct) Rules, 1968.

Article of Charge – II:

That the Member of Service/ Charged Officer, having received unauthorized instructions, subsequently issued oral instructions on 31.01.2024 itself to his subordinate Shri Vishal Gunni and other sub-ordinates, to register a criminal case FIR No. 90 of 2024 in the file of Ibrahimpatnam Police Station against Ms. Kadambari Jetwani & Ors without issuing any corresponding written directive, contrary to the procedural safeguards stipulated under the All India Services (Conduct) Rules, 1968, Rule 3(1A)(i), 3(2) and Rule 3(2A). In failing to confirm his own oral instructions in writing, Sri Kanthi Rana Tata acted contrary to law, due process, and the rules requiring that all directions be documented to ensure accountability and procedural transparency. This constitutes a serious deviation from lawful and ethical standards in service.

Article of Charge – III:

That the Member of Service/ Charged Officer, without any formal requisition, receipt of complaint, or registration of an FIR, directed his Camp Clerk (C.C) to make arrangements for travel of Police Officers to Mumbai, including purchase of flight tickets without issuance of written instructions or foreign passport with the intent to effectuate the arrest of Ms. Kadambari Jetwani & Ors. This action, executed prior to the establishment of a formal basis for arrest, constitutes a premature and improper exercise of his authority, in violation of the All India Services (Conduct) Rules, 1968, specifically Rule 3(1) and Rule 3(1A)(ii), which mandate that every officer act with integrity, impartiality, and in strict adherence to lawful and procedural requirements.

Article of Charge – IV:

That the Member of Service/ Charged Officer in abuse of his position and in connivance with Shri P.S.R Anjaneyulu & Shri Vishal Gunni, caused for the initiation of penal actions, including the filing of an FIR No. 90 of 2024 in the file of Ibrahimpatnam Police Station and subsequent arrest measures against Ms. Kadambari Jetwani & Ors, prior to the receipt of a formal complaint or the registration of an FIR in furtherance of ulterior motives. This conduct was undertaken without proper supervisory authority or jurisdiction, violating the All India Services (Conduct) Rules, 1968, specifically Rule 3(1), which mandates that every officer maintain absolute integrity and uphold lawful and impartial conduct in their duties.

Thus the charged Officer by his above-mentioned acts has exhibited lack of integrity, devotion to duty and conducts unbecoming of a Member of Service thereby violated Rule 3(1), 3(1A)(i), 3(1A)(iii), 3(1A)(iv), 3(1A)(vi), 3(2B)(i), 3(2B)(iii), 3(2B)(iv), 3(2B)(vii), 3(2B)(ix), 3(2B)(x), 3(2B)(xiii) of All India Service (Conduct) Rules, 1968.

NEERABH KUMAR PRASAD
CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

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ANNEXURE-II

Statement of Imputations in support of the Articles of Charge framed against Sri Kanthi Rana Tata, I.P.S. (Formerly C.P., N.T.R. Police Commissionerate, Vijayawada)

On January 30, 2024, the charged officer informed Sri Vishal Gunni, IPS, then Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Vijayawada, about a significant case requiring monitoring, stating that specific details would be provided once the facts were verified.

On January 31, 2024, Sri P.S.R. Anjaneyulu, IPS, the then Director General of Police (Intelligence), summoned both Sri Vishal Gunni and the charged officer to the Chief Minister's Office (CMO). In the waiting room, he briefed them on the details of a case involving Ms. Kadambari Jethwani, describing it as a case of alleged cheating and forgery in which the complainant, Sri Vidya Sagar, reportedly faced extortion. Sri Anjaneyulu specified that Ms. Jethwani was the accused and emphasized that her arrest was necessary. Records indicate, however, that an FIR was not formally filed until February 2, 2024, at 6:30 AM, while instructions were given on January 31, 2024, raising suspicions about the charged officer's intent. In the absence of any formal complaint or FIR from Sri Vidya Sagar at the time, Sri P.S.R. Anjaneyulu, IPS, directed the charged officer and Sri Vishal Gunni, thereby influencing them to carry out specific actions in a predetermined manner.

Acting upon the charged officer's verbal instructions, his camp clerk, Sri M. Kumar, arranged flight tickets on February 1, 2024, for officers Sri Ramana Murthy, Additional DCP Task Force; Sri Sridhar, Inspector of Police; and Sri Sharif, Sub-Inspector. These officers departed for Mumbai on February 2, 2024, at 7:30 AM—just one hour after the FIR was registered at 6:30 AM. Furthermore, another set of flight tickets was booked by Sri M. Kumar on the evening of February 2, 2024, for additional personnel, namely (1) Sri M. Satyanarayana, Inspector at Ibrahimpatnam; (2) M/s. A. Durga Devi, Sub-Inspector; (3) M/s. T. Mownika, RSI; (4) Sri Y. Ramesh, PC-2809; (5) Smt. M. Geetanjali, ARWPC-3489; (6) S. Ramya, ARWPC-1018; (7) Sk. Shabana, WPC-1185; (8) Sri M. Bhanu Kiran, PC-3695; and (9) Sri U. Gopi, PC-2339. Expenses for these flights were drawn from the Secret Service Expenditure (SSE) fund, as directed by the charged officer. This sequence of events indicates that flight arrangements were made as early as February 1, 2024, based on instructions from Sri P.S.R. Anjaneyulu, IPS.

Moreover, Ms. Jethwani's current residence at A-602, Ideal Apartments, Gulmohar Road, Juhu, Mumbai, was acquired only in 2020, with her move-in date in July 2020. Yet, the documents alleged to be forged indicate her residence there as early as 2018. Ms. Jethwani claims that if she had intended to falsify the documents, she would not have used a non-existent address, casting doubt on the authenticity of the case. Further, her signature does not appear on the questioned document, which adds to the uncertainty about its genuineness.

While her mobile phones and iPad were held in police custody, her iTunes account was accessed or attempts were made to access it multiple times, with password changes or attempted changes occurring two or three times, suggesting potential tampering with evidence. Ms. Jethwani provided screenshots of emails from Apple, sent to her email (kahkkashanaryan@gmail.com) on February 7, February 21, February 23, May 28, and May 29, 2024, showing attempts to log in to her Apple ID from a web browser and changes made or attempted to her Apple ID, such as email updates and password resets. All electronic

devices were subsequently sent to the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) in Mangalagiri on February 25, 2024, indicating possible tampering before forensic analysis.

In case Cr.No.90/2024 of Ibrahimpatnam P.S., all witnesses denied knowledge of the alleged transactions. Witnesses LWs 5 and 6, who were purported to have paid five lakh rupees to Ms. Jethwani for land in Jaggayyapeta, denied knowing her and claimed no association with her. This, combined with the timing of the directives from the charged officer and Sri Anjaneyulu, suggests an investigation that commenced prematurely, appeared biased, and lacked thoroughness.

The investigation proceeded and arrests were made quickly, on the same day as FIR registration, without adequate documentation or physical evidence, disregarding basic investigative standards. This approach, led by the IO, supervising officers, the charged officer, the then DGP (Intelligence), and the then DCP of Vijayawada, caused significant distress to Ms. Jethwani and her family, who were detained without the opportunity to present their side, resulting in a 42-day jail term, including five days in police custody, diminishing their faith in law enforcement and the criminal justice system.

Thus, the charged officer violated Rules 3(1), 3(1A)(i), 3(1A)(iii), 3(1A)(iv), 3(2B)(i),3(2B)(iii), 3(2B)(iv), 3(2B)(vii), 3(2B)(viii), 3(2B)(x) and 3(2B)(xiii) of All India Services (Conduct) Rules, 1968 as amended from time to time.

Hence, the charge.

NEERABH KUMAR PRASAD
CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

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ANNEXURE – III

List of documents by which the articles of charge framed against Sri Kanthi Rana Tata, I.P.S., I.G.P. (u/s) (formerly C.P., NTR Police Commissionerate, Vijayawada) are proposed to be sustained.

1. Statement of Kum. Kadambari Narendra Kumar Jethwani, D/o. Sri Narendra Kumar Jethwani, Age.37 yrs; R/o. A-602, Ideal Apartments, Gulmohar Road, Juhu, Mumbai.

2. Statement of Sri M. Satyanarayana, Inspector of Police (U/s) formerly worked as S.H.O., Ibrahimpatnam PS, Vijayawada City.

3. Statement of Sri K. Sridhar Kumar, Inspector of Police, City Task Force, NTR Police Commissionerate, Vijayawada.

4. Statement of Dr. K. HanumanthaRao, DSP (waiting), Chief Office.

5. Statement of Sri G.V. Ramana Murthy, Addl.SP(Admn), Guntur (f) ADCP, C.T.F, NTR Police Commissionerate, Vijayawada.

6. Statement of Sri Vishal Gunni, IPS, DIG (U/s) (the then DCP, L&O, Vijayawada).

7. Statement of Sri M. Kumar, CC to CP, NTR Police Commissionerate, Vijayawada.

8. Enquiry report in C.No. 79 / ACP-CCS-VZA / 2024, dt. 10-09-2024 of Asst. Commissioner of Police, C.C.S., N.T.R. Police Commissionerate, Vijayawada.

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CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

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ANNEXURE – IV

List of witnesses by which the articles of charge framed against Sri Kanthi Rana Tata, I.P.S., I.G.P. (u/s) (formerly C.P., NTR Police Commissionerate, Vijayawada) are proposed to be sustained.

1. Kum. Kadambari Narendra Kumar Jethwani, D/o. Narendra Kumar Jethwani, Age.37 yrs; R/o. A-602, Ideal Apartments, Gulmohar Road, Juhu, Mumbai.

2. Sri M. Satyanarayana, Inspector of Police (U/s) formerly worked as S.H.O., Ibrahimpatnam PS, Vijayawada City.

3. Sri K. Sridhar Kumar, Inspector of Police, City Task Force, NTR Police Commissionerate, Vijayawada.

4. Dr. K. HanumanthaRao, DSP (waiting), Chief Office.

5. Sri G.V. Ramana Murthy, Addl.SP(Admn), Guntur (f) ADCP, C.T.F, NTR Police Commissionerate, Vijayawada.

6. Sri VishalGunni, IPS, DIG (U/s) (the then DCP, L&O, Vijayawada.)

7. Sri M. Kumar, CC to CP, NTR Police Commissionerate, Vijayawada.

8. Dr. K. Sravanthi Roy, Asst. Commissioner of Police, C.C.S., N.T.R Police Commissionerate,Vijayawada.

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CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

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